40 Ticehurst Lane Marblehead, MA 01945

November 30, 2022

<u>Via Email</u>

Office of the Select Board – Attention Mr. Moses Grader School Administration Office – Attention Ms. Sarah Fox

Re: School Committee Application

Dear Mr. Grader and Ms. Fox:

I wish to apply for the vacant position on the Marblehead School Committee.

I am a lifelong educator. After graduating from Lynn English High School in 1963, I was a math major at Boston University. In my senior year the department chair, short a graduate student, hired me as a teaching assistant for some undergraduate math courses. I subsequently taught math for one year at Beverly High School before being hired as a full-time instructor back at B.U. where I completed my Ph.D. degree in 1973.

I then changed careers when I had the opportunity to attend law school. After practicing as a litigation associate at a Boston law firm (and living in Marblehead), I returned to academia by joining the law faculty at what is now the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. For thirty-four years I contributed to many aspects of managing the institution and taught a variety of courses including constitutional law (with emphasis on the First Amendment), professional legal ethics, and torts.

When my wife, a law professor in New York and my co-author on two books, retired, I emulated her, and we traded the desert for the ocean moving back to Marblehead in late 2016.

I have an abiding interest in education at all levels. Raising and successfully educating two children, I know directly the sometimes daunting task facing parents for whom education, broadly conceived, likely is second in importance only to the Office of the Select Board – Attention Mr. Moses Grader School Administration Office – Attention Ms. Sarah Fox November 29, 2022 Page 2 of 2

health of their children. While I believe parents are entitled to choose options they believe are best suited to their children, I am committed to the idea of providing excellent education through public schools for children across a broad spectrum of talent, ability and interest. Quality public education is the lifeblood of democracy and our civil society, and public schools, although facing many challenges, have a quite vital role to play in our country.

Two caveats I should mention. First, I have not had a reason in recent years to focus on the Marblehead public schools or any specific, current local issues. I do believe, however, that I am a pretty quick study on such matters. Second, I understand this is an interim appointment until an election in June, 2023, and I cannot commit now to either seeking or not seeking an elected term on the Committee.

Still, I believe I have the time, background and interest to meaningfully contribute in the near term to the Marblehead School Committee. I am enclosing a current resume.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Laurence H. Winer

Enc: Resume